

Don Kessler spoke about the importance of widening Sweeten Creek Road, and asked where information goes after it is presented. Mr. Baechtold explained how public comments will be documented and also explained how the recommendations from the plan will be used.

Brent Garrett of Fairview said that he was happy to see a multi-modal plan, and spoke about the importance of making the system friendly to bicycles, especially in and around Asheville. Mr. Garrett said that area roads are not bike friendly and that it is extremely difficult to get from Fairview in to Asheville by bike.

Mr. McGrady called for other speakers. None identified themselves, and so he adjourned the hearing. Mr. Maddox, staff, and some attendees remained in case other people came to speak.

Sandra Mueller came asking to speak, and Mr. Maddox reopened the hearing. Ms. Mueller spoke about how long the US 25A widening had been under consideration, and the importance of beginning to work toward the widening of US 25A. Ms. Mueller stated that the project has been on the books for 24 years. She wondered why other similar projects had been moved ahead, and asked that the Sweeten Creek project study begin as soon as possible. Ms. Mueller stated that she has concerns for emergency vehicle access and relayed an account of an incident with a blocked emergency vehicle. Ms. Mueller said that she was pleased that the MPO's TCC made a recommendation to advance the project on the Priority Needs List to move it closer to getting funding, but expressed disappointment that the effort to fund the project has not produced results.

Mr. Maddox called for other speakers, and none being heard, adjourned the meeting. Again staff and some attendees remained, waiting for other speakers to arrive. At 8:05 p.m., having had no others come, staff and all attendees left the building.

Written Comments Received

November 8, 2007 MPO TAC Public Hearing on Adoption of the CTP

As a part of the public hearing, written comments were accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 12, 2007. Comments could be emailed to mpo@ashevillenc.gov, mailed to the MPO's post office box, or delivered to the MPO office. The following comments were received:

[Email] From: Julie White
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2007 7:39 PM
To: MPO
Subject: comment on transportation plan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this plan. I was pleased to